

Message Text

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TO USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: YOMIURI AND MAINICHI POLLS ON MIKI CABINET

YOMIURI AND MAINICHI PUBLISHED RESULTS POLLS ON MIKI CABINET AND
FORTHCOMING LOCAL ELECTIONS. FINDINGS OF INTEREST FOLLOW:

1. YOMIURI POLL. TAKEN MARCH 15-16 WITH NATIONAL SAMPLE OF
2,367 RESPONDENTS DRAWN FROM ELIGIBLE VOTERS.

2.SUMMARY: (A) 42.5 PERCENT SUPPORTED MIKI CABINET, A CON-
SIDERABLE RISE FROM 21.2 PERCENT WHICH TANAKA CABINET GOT IN
JUNE LAST YEAR. MORE OLDER PERSONS SUPPORTED MIKI CABINET,
RANGING FROM 31.2 PERCENT IN THEIR TWENTIES TO 55.7 PERCENT
OVER 60 YEARS OLD. MORE LOWER EDUCATED SUPPORTED MIKI (PRIMARY/
SECONDARY EDUCATION 43.7 PERCENT, SR HIGH 42, UNIVERSITY 40.1).
(B) 40.2 PERCENT SUPPORTED LDP, RATING WAS 36 PERCENT LAST JUNE.
KOMEI-TO DROPPED TO 2.8 PERCENT FROM 5.1 LAST JUNE, AND PLUNGED
TO LEAST SUPPORTED AMONG FIVE POLITICAL PARTIES. JSP AND JCP
DECLINED SOMEWHAT. DSP REMAINED ALMOST SAME. (C) 35.9 PERCENT
WERE IN FAVOR OF DISSOLVING HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WHILE 32.3
PERCENT WERE NOT. (D) 61.9 PERCENT FORESAW NO CHANGE IN SEATS
OF LDP AND OPPOSITION PARTIES BY NEXT HOUSE ELECTION. (E) ASKED
WHAT FORM OF COALITION CABINET WOULD BE DESIRABLE IN CASE LDP
CANNOT STAY IN POWER ALON, 26.3 PERCENT CHOSE COALITION BY LDP
AND DSP, WHILE 24.6 PERCENT BY LDP, JSP, KOMEI, AND DSP EXCLUDING
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JCP. END SUMMARY.

3. DO YOU SUPPORT MIKI CABINET?: (A) SUPPORT 42.5; (B) DO NOT SUPPORT 27.2; (C) OTHER 5.2; (D) DK/NA 25.2.

4. WHAT POLITICAL PARTY DO YOU SUPPORT?: (A) LDP 40.2; (B) JSP 18.5; (C) JCP 4.0; (D) KOMEI 2.8; (E) 3.4; (F) OTHER 0.4; (G) NO POLITICAL PARTY SUPPORT 23.9; (H) DK/NA 6.8.

5. TERM OF MEMBERS OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WILL EXPIRE IN DECEMBER NEXT YEAR. SOME PEOPLE SAY: "MIKI CABINET SHOULD DISSOLVE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND TEST ITS CONFIDENCE ON NATIONAL REFERENDUM." IF IT IS DISSOLVED, WHEN DO YOU THINK IT SHOULD BE DONE?: (C) DISSOLVE AT EARLIEST TIME 13.9; (B) DISSOLVE WITHIN YEAR 14.4; (C) DISSOLVE BEFORE END OF TERM NEXT YEAR 7.6; (D) NO NEED TO DISSOLVE 32.3; (E) DK/NA 31.9.

6. OPPOSITION PARTY SEATS ARE APPROACHING LDP IN NUMBER. DO YOU THINK THIS TREND WILL CONTINUE IN NEXT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ELECTION, OR BE REVERSED, OR REMAIN THE SAME?: (A) WILL GET CLOSER 20.1; (B) BALANCE WILL REVERSE 2.5; (C) REMAIN ALMOST SAME AS NOW 61.9; (D) DK/NA 15.5

7. IN CASE LDP IS UNABLE TO STAY IN POWER ALONE, WHAT FORM OF ADMINISTRATION WOULD YOU CHOOSE FROM THIS LIST?: (A) COALITION BY LDP AND DSP 26.3; (B) COALITION BY LDP, JSP, KOMEI AND DSP (EXCLUDING JCP 24.6; (C) PROGRESSIVE COALITION WITH JSP AND JCP AS ITS NUCLEUS (EXCLUDE LDP) 12.6; (D) OTHER 4.3; (E) DK/NA 32.2.

8. APART FROM POLITICAL PARTY YOU SUPPORT, WHICH PARTY DO YOU THINK WILL INCREASE VOTES IN NEXT GENERAL ELECTION?: (A) LDP 27.9; (B) JSP 14.1; (C) JCP 22.1; (D) KOMEI 3.8; (E) DSP 2.5; (F) OTHER PARTY 0.2; (G) INDEPENDENT 2.4; (H) DK, NA 27.1.

9. MAINICHI POLL CARRIED OUT MARCH 7-9 WITH NATIONAL SAMPLE OF 2,212 RESPONDENTS DRAWN FROM ELIGIBLE VOTERS.

10. SUMMARY: (A) SUPPORT FOR MIKI CABINET DROPPED FROM 47 PERCENT IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR WHEN CABINET WAS INAUGURATED, TO PRESENT 39 PERCENT. (B) 38 PERCENT SUPPORTED LDP, SHOWING A SLIGHT INCREASE FROM LAST DECEMBER, BUT BOTH JSP AND DSP REMAINED SAME DURING UNCLASSIFIED

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PERIOD, WHILE JCP AND KOMEI HAVE SHOWN VERY LITTLE ADVANCE. (C) 33 PERCENT FELT THAT POLITICAL PARTY WAS STRONGEST FORCE MOVING JAPAN, WHILE 2 PERCENT MENTIONED PRESSURE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES. (D) IN MULTIPLE REPLIES 74 PERCENT NAMED HIGH PRICES AS DISTURBING, WHILE PROBLEM OF NUCLEAR ARMS TRANSIT INTO JAPAN TOOK TENTH PLACE WITH 13 PERCENT. (E) PEACE AND SECURITY MEASURES WAS AMONG LOWEST ONE PERCENT AS A DOMESTIC ISSUE FOR MIKI CABINET TO HANDLE. END SUMMARY.

11. DO YOU SUPPORT MIKI CABINET?: (A) SUPPORT 39 (47 PERCENT DEC
74 AT ITS INAUGURATION: (B) DO NOT SUPPORT 20 (12); (C) HAVE NO
INTEREST 38 (35); (D) OTHER/NA 3 (6).

12. WHICH POLITICAL PARTY DO YOU SUPPORT?: (A) LDP 38; (B) JSP
18; (C) JCP 5; (D) KOMEI 5; (E) DSP 3; (F) OTHER PARTY 1; (G)
NO POLITICAL PARTY TO SUPPORT 28; (H) OTHER NA 2.

13. WHICH ITEM IN THIS LIST DO YOU THINK MOVES JAPAN TODAY?
PLEASE CHOOSE ONE WHICH YOU THINK IS STRONGEST FORCE: (A) VOTING
8; (B) POLITICAL PARTIES 33; (C) BUREAUCRATS 6; (D) FINANCIAL
CIRCLES 27; (E) MASS MEDIA/PUBLIC OPINION 9; (F) CIVIC CAMPAIGN/
COMMUNITY MOVES 3; (G) CAMPAIGNS BY TRADE UNIONS AND OTHER 2;
(H) POLICE/SDF 0; (I) PRESSURE GROUPS 2; (J) PRESSURE FROM
FOREIGN COUNTRIES 2; (K) OTHER 1; (L) NA 7.

14. WHICH ITEMS LISTED ON THIS CARD DO YOU GET ANGRY ABOUT?
CHOOSE AS MANY AS YOU LIKE: (A) RECESSION 41; (B) DEFECTIVE
MEDICAL CARE SYSTEM 36; (C) TAX INEQUALITY 40; (D) BRINGING
NUCLEAR WEAPONS INTO JAPAN 13; (E) CORRUPTION 26; (F) MONEY
POWER POLITICS 38; (G) POLLUTION 31; (H) DESTRUCTION OF NATURE 25; (I)

SPIRALING PRICES 74; (J) ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS 17; (K) OTHER 1;
(L) NA 2.

15. TO WHICH DOMESTIC POLICY DO YOU WANT MIKE CABINET TO PAY
GREATEST ATTENTION?: (A) HOUSING 6; (B) ROAD/TRANSPORTATION 2;
(C) POLLUTION/DISASTER PREVENTION 4; (D) TAX MEASURES 5; (E)
PRICE/LIVELIHOOD 59; (F) EDUCATION/YOUTH 5; (G) PEACE/DEFENSE 1;
(H) COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT 4; (I) WELFARE/AGED PERSONS 12; (J)
AREA DEVELOPMENT/URBANIZATION 1; (K) OTHER/NA 1.

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Message Attributes

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